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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4431
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0517
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0641

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 000760

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/24/2019

TAGS: PREL PGOV AF GM

SUBJECT: AFGHAN ELECTIONS: GERMANY AGREES WITH U.S. POINTS,
SEES POSSIBLE JOINT STATEMENT FROM AF/PAK SPECIAL REPS

REF: STATE 63551

Classified By: ACTING POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF WILLIAM MOELLER. REASONS:
1.4 (B) AND (D).

¶1. (C) Post delivered reftel points and a copy of President Obama's public statement on the Afghan election campaign to MFA Afghanistan/Pakistan Task Force Director Ruediger Koenig on June 22 and strongly encouraged Germany to make its own public statement.

¶2. (C) Koenig said that Germany completely agreed with the U.S. approach to the Afghan elections, noting that it also did not support or oppose any particular candidate and thought it was important that there be a level playing field for all candidates. Koenig said that both Chancellor Merkel and FM Steinmeier have made these points during numerous press opportunities and would continue to do so. While Koenig did not anticipate Germany issuing a written statement on this matter in the near future, he noted that the special envoys for Afghanistan and Pakistan were contemplating a joint declaration after their upcoming meeting in Trieste and suggested that this could be one of the issues addressed.
Koenig